

Virginia A. Lamarche
Weybridge D-63
1838 Hwy 35
Wall, NJ 07719 - 3523

1/17/01

US FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
DOCKETS MANAGEMENT BRANCH
5630 FISHERS LANE, ROOM 1061
ROCKVILLE, MD 20852

6136 '01 JAN 23 A11:30

RE: DOCKET NUMBER 98P-0151/CP1

Dear Sirs:

Please stop the trade in downed animals.

Animals who are too sick or injured even to stand should not be allowed to enter the human food chain.

Some downed animals may be infected with a form of BSE, or Mad Cow Disease, which has been linked to CJD in humans, or, Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease.

It is impossible to move downed animals humanely. They are typically pushed with tractors or dragged with chains..both inhumane methods which cause injuries from bruises and abrasions to broken bones and torn ligaments.

THIS IS EXTREMELY CRUEL AND UNECESSARY

DOWNED ANIMALS COMPRISE A VERY SMALL PERCENTAGE OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AND PROHIBITING THEIR MARKETING WILL CAUSE NO UNDUE ECONOMIC HARDSHIP.

Ninety percent of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling. Removing the market for downed animals will provide an incentive to industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

Sincerely yours,

Virginia Lamarche
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98P-0151

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Virginia A. Lamarche
Weybridge D-63
1838 Hwy 35
Wall, NJ 07719



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ROCKVILLE, MD 20852

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